

## AGENDA ITEM VIII A

### PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

#### PROPOSED REVISION TO ACADEMIC AFFAIRS POLICY 2.13.03 - TIMELINES FOR OBTAINING MANDATORY ACCREDITATION FOR NEW AND EXISTING DEGREE PROGRAMS

##### BACKGROUND

At its June and September 1999 meetings, the Statewide Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCCAO) formalized all but four issues regarding the Board of Regents' comprehensive policy on academic program accreditation (Academic Affairs Policies and Procedures 2.13.09 — Engineering and Engineering-Related Technology Programs, CIP Codes 14 and 15). These four issues were as follows: a) recommendations regarding mandatory accreditation of degree programs in CIP Codes 14 and 15 — “Engineering” and “Engineering-Related Technology Programs”; b) consideration of a recommended accreditation standard for associate level Business Administration programs; c) consideration of an alternate mandatory accrediting agency for Nursing programs; and d) timelines for programs mandated to have accreditation to achieve accreditation. At the June 2000 meeting, the SCCAO unanimously approved the following guidelines relating to the aforementioned issues:

##### STAFF SUMMARY

Currently, Academic Affairs Policies and Procedures Section 2.13.03 reads as follows:

*An unaccredited program that is eligible for accreditation by an agency that is considered mandatory on the effective date of this policy (October 28, 1999) must achieve accreditation within the time agreed upon by the Academic Affairs' staff and the institution. Failure to do so will result in the Academic Affairs' staff recommending that the Board of Regents terminate the program.*

The staff recommends that the following guidelines replace those outlined above:

##### ***New Degree Programs***

*The Board of Regents will stipulate in its motion of approval for all new degree programs with **mandatory accreditation** a date certain for achieving accreditation. Typically, accreditation will be required within **three to five years** from the date of program implementation depending on such factors as program length and specific requirements set forth by the accrediting agency. In arriving at the required date for accreditation, the staff will consult with the affected university or college prior to action by the Board of Regents.*

### ***Existing Degree Programs***

*Existing degree programs **mandated** to be accredited, but not currently accredited, will be given until **July 1, 2003**, to obtain accreditation. If, at that time, accreditation has not been achieved, the Board of Regents will examine the respective quality and continuing need for the program.*

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

***The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee approve the revisions to Academic Affairs Policies and Procedures Section 2.13.03 — Timelines for Obtaining Mandatory Accreditation for New and Existing Degree Programs, effective immediately.***

## AGENDA ITEM VIII B

### PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

#### PROPOSED REVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS POLICY 2.13.09 - ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING-RELATED TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS (CIP CODES 14 AND 15)

##### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In Fall 1999, the Statewide Council of Chief Academic Officers (SCCAO) appointed a subcommittee to explore which appropriate accreditation agency — either the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) and/or the National Association for Industrial Technology (NAIT) — should be *mandated* for the various degree programs in CIP Codes 14 and 15. The subcommittee also considered requirements for consistency in the use of degree titles in the aforementioned CIP Codes. At its June 22, 2000 meeting, the SCCAO voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the subcommittee for the proposed new Academic Affairs Policies and Procedures Section 2.13.09 — Engineering and Engineering-Related Technology Programs.

The staff concurs with the SCCAO action. The proposed revised policy is as follows:

##### Degree Designations

*To promote statewide consistency in degree designations of associate degree programs in technology and engineering technology, the following principles will be used:*

- a. *Associate degree programs in CIP Codes 14 and 15 that are intended to prepare individuals for immediate job entry will be designated as **Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.)** degrees;*
- b. *Associate degree programs in CIP Codes 14 and 15 that are intended to prepare students for entry into baccalaureate-level programs will be designated as **Associate of Science (A.S.)** degrees;*
- a. *Associate degree programs that contain the words “**Engineering Technology**” in the title will be considered as preparatory programs for baccalaureate study and will be designated as **Associate of Science (A.S.)** degrees; and*
- b. *For baccalaureate programs and above in CIP Code 14, the word “Engineering” can only be used for degree programs that are accredited by ABET.*

## **Accreditation**

*Accreditation of a program is generally considered **mandatory** for engineering and engineering-related technology programs. The following policies will be used to determine the appropriate accrediting agency for programs in CIP Codes 14 and 15 that are eligible for accreditation:*

- a. All degree programs in CIP Code 14 “**Engineering**” must be accredited by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET);*
- b. All **Engineering Technology** Associate of Science, Bachelor of Applied Science, Bachelor of Science, and Master of Science degree programs in CIP Code 15 must be accredited by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET);*
- c. All **Engineering Technology** Associate of Applied Science programs and non-Engineering Technology Bachelor of Science degree programs in CIP Code 15 must be accredited by the National Association for Industrial Technology (NAIT) or an equivalent appropriate accrediting agency, if available;*
- d. **Baccalaureate degree programs in Engineering and Engineering Technology** are exempt from mandatory ABET accreditation when the institution’s masters degree program in the same discipline has already obtained ABET accreditation; and*
- e. **Associate degree programs in Engineering and Engineering Technology** are exempt from mandatory ABET accreditation when the institution’s bachelors degree program in the same discipline has already obtained ABET accreditation.*

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

***The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee approve revised Academic Affairs’ Policies and Procedures Section 2.13.09 — Engineering and Engineering-Related Technology Programs (CIP Codes 14 and 15), effective immediately.***

## AGENDA ITEM VIII C

### PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

#### STAFF UPDATES

**1. Accreditation Standard for Associate Degree Programs in Business Administration**

Given that the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) does not accredit below the baccalaureate level, it is *recommended* that associate level business administration programs seek accreditation through the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) or an equivalent accrediting agency.

**2. Alternate Mandatory Accrediting Agency for Nursing Programs**

National trends reflect that nursing programs are moving from NLN (National League for Nursing) accreditation to CCNE (Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education) accreditation; hence, CCNE will be added to the Board of Regents' list of "Mandatory Accrediting Agencies." CCNE does not accredit nursing programs at the associate level; therefore, accreditation by NLN will be *mandatory* at the associate degree level, while campuses will have the option of electing either CCNE or NLN for *mandatory* accreditation for programs at the baccalaureate level and above.